

Maron Parish is the largest Maronite Catholic community in the Mid-West.

Patriarch Rai was born on February 25, 1940 in Himlaya, Matn District, Lebanon. On July 31, 1962 he entered the Mariamite Maronite Order. Five years later, on September 3, 1967, Patriarch Rai was ordained a priest and almost immediately began working on Arabic transmissions of Vatican Radio. In 1975, he earned a PhD in canon and civil law.

On July 12, 1986, Patriarch Rai was consecrated as auxiliary bishop of Antioch and on June 9, 1990 he was appointed bishop of Byblos. He was elected Secretary of the Maronite Synod in 2003. He was the recipient of the National Order of the Cedar award in 2007. In 2009, he was appointed President of the Lebanese Episcopal Commission for the Media. On March 25, 2011 Patriarch Rai was elected Patriarch of the Maronite Catholic Church.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in welcoming His Beatitude Patriarch Bechara Peter Rai, Patriarch of Antioch for the Maronite Catholic Church to City of Cleveland.

IN OPPOSITION TO H.R. 2681 AND
H.R. 2250

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, every week the Majority makes a new attempt to roll back environmental rules that protect the health of our citizens and the health of our environment in favor of big polluters. This week the Majority has brought to the floor two bills that according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) would collectively mean 32,500 more premature deaths, 19,500 additional heart attacks, and 208,000 asthma attacks that otherwise would have been avoided. This is unacceptable.

Instead of working on legislation to increase employment and create new jobs or legislation that would support critical infrastructure needs of public schools and roads, the Majority is bringing to the Floor two pieces of legislation that would delay the implementation of long overdue air pollution standards. Even though such standards are required by the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments, these bills would put off the cleanup of mercury and other toxic pollutants from cement kilns, incinerators, and industrial boilers, as well as make permanent changes to the Clean Air Act that weaken health and science-based standards. The facilities targeted by this legislation are some of the largest sources of U.S. mercury pollution, a powerful neurotoxin known to be dangerous to pregnant women and to impair children's ability to think and learn.

The EPA rules are scientific and data driven. These bills would defy science in favor of the regulatory option that is most beneficial to industry, even if another option is feasible, cost-effective, and offers better public health protections. For example, H.R. 2250 would nullify rules that require industrial boilers and incinerators to reduce their emissions, and yet, estimates for the emission reductions required by the rules would yield \$10 to \$24 in health benefits for every dollar spent to meet the standards. The savings from lower health care

costs and higher worker productivity mean tens of billions of dollars more in net benefits and will result in lower rates of illness and death.

At the start of the 112th Congress, the Majority put in place rules requiring that all legislation be offset by new authorizations but that rule is disregarded in these bills. In other words, these bills are not paid for. H.R. 2250 and H.R. 2681 would nullify existing EPA rules and require EPA to start the rulemaking process over again—a process the Congressional Budget Office estimates would result in \$1 million in discretionary spending by EPA.

I oppose these bills that would increase toxic air pollution, cost lives, drive up health care costs, and fundamentally weaken future standards under the Clean Air Act. We must protect our communities from toxic polluters.

Had I been present October 5, 2011, I would have voted "aye" on Amendments #1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 9, 11, 14, 16, 17, 18, 20, and 21, to H.R. 2681.

H.R. 2250 AND 2681

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, in 1990, the Clean Air Act Amendments required EPA to complete and issue regulations on hazardous air pollutants by 2000. This week, we considered two bills that would delay two regulations for at least another six years—with no deadline for EPA to complete these regulations and giving industry no deadline to comply. Enacting these bills combines continued air pollution with true regulatory uncertainty.

H.R. 2250 and H.R. 2681 targeted regulations that would reduce emissions from two of the dirtiest industries in the country—cement kilns and industrial boilers—when most other industries already adhere to similar Clean Air Act regulations. Together, the two regulations eliminated by these bills would save 9,100 American lives every year and yield \$17 to \$43 in health care savings for every dollar spent reducing emissions under the new standards. Both bills require EPA to throw out work it has already completed and start over. Both bills add to the deficit and fail to comply with the Republican cut-go policy. Both bills gut EPA's authority to require the most protective standard (MACT—Maximum Achievable Control Technology) and replace it with a requirement to select the least burdensome standard, specifically including "work practice" standards, which are merely a requirement to keep equipment in working order. Both bills sacrifice public health to private industry profit.

I strongly oppose both H.R. 2250 and H.R. 2681. Unfortunately, I was unable to be in Washington on October 6, 2011 to vote against them. Had I been able, I would have voted against both H.R. 2250 and H.R. 2681.

HONORING CROWLEY COUNTY
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. CORY GARDNER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Centennial Celebration of Crowley County, Colorado.

When the State of Colorado was accepted into the United States in 1876, this portion of Southeast Colorado became known as Otero County.

In August of 1911, Crowley County became officially incorporated in the State of Colorado. It took its name from Joseph H. Crowley, a Senator in the Colorado State Legislature.

Crowley County began to flourish with a rich agricultural economy. The plentiful land attracted many to settle in Crowley.

Numerous farmers and ranchers came to Crowley because of ample grasslands for grazing livestock as well as soil able to produce wheat, corn, alfalfa, and sugar beets to name a few.

Many successful ranchers and farmers continue their steadfast love of the land and provide a vital base of revenues and jobs for the Crowley Community. Since 1911, the economic base has added new jobs and industries.

The people of Crowley County continue to be resourceful and seek new ways to drive their economy and the county continues to move forward.

Crowley County continues to hold onto the values that were here 100 years ago. These values, a sense of community, pride, and hard work are still evident today.

It is with this sense of community and pride that I am honored to recognize Crowley County's historic 100 year anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF PULASKI DAY
2011

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Polonia Foundation of Ohio and the Department of Ohio Polish Legion of American Veterans as they unite the community in remembrance and celebration of General Casimir Pulaski, for his legacy and dedication to the people of Poland and United States of America.

Born on March 4, 1747 in Warzka, Poland, General Pulaski achieved great military success in Poland with his focused leadership and strategies in fighting the Russian forces in Poland. By 1777, General Pulaski had become one of the most renowned cavalymen in Europe and was actively recruited by Benjamin Franklin to assist in the American quest for liberation.

Sympathetic to the American cause, General Pulaski sailed to America and was made head of the newly formed American cavalry during the Revolutionary War. General Pulaski had a deep level of commitment to the American cause and spent his own money to feed and equip his troops. General Pulaski was involved in many significant battles during the